MINUTES

OF THE

SIXTY-NINTH ANNUAL SESSION

OF THE

MUSKINGUM

BAPTIST ASSOCIATION,

HELD WITH THE

PLEASANT HILL CHURCH, LICKING COUNTY, O.,

August 21, 22 and 23, 1878.

ZANESVILLE, OHIO:
Signal Office, Corner Main and Fourth Streets,
1878.

Post Office Address of Ministers.

JOHN CRABTREE, Hanover, Licking County, O.
SAMUEL MEREDITH, Linnville, Licking County, O.
JOHN J. VANHORN, Zanesville, O. (Box 378.)
ALEXANDER TEAL, Glendale, Guernsey County, O.
E. STEVENS, Florence, Boone County, Kentucky.
DAVID G. BARKER, Pleasantville, Fairfield County, O.
EPHRAIM BARKER, Gratiot, Licking County, O.
PETER OGAN, Cumberland, Guernsey County, O.
JOHN BOLIN, Newark, Licking County, O.
JOHN PRITCHARD, St. Louisville, Licking County, O.
JOHN CROY, Elliott's Cross Roads, Morgan County, O.
WILLIAM NEWLON, Portersville, Perry County, O.
GEORGE BURLEY, Hopewell, Muskingum County, O.
J. P. TAYLOR, Hope, Franklin County, O.
WILLIAM FISHER, Lancaster, Fairfield County, O.
G. N. TUSSING, Columbus, O.
LOUIS KAGY, Pleasantville, Fairfield County. O.
G. W. MOORE, Clerk, New Lexington, O.

Post Office Address of Church Clerks.

Fallsburgh—Wm. Painter, Rocky Fork, Licking County, O.
Jonathan's Creek—Daniel Norman, Hopewell, Muskingum Co., O.
Lancaster—G. W. Starner, Lancaster, Fairfield County, O.
Beulah—Stephen Francis, Toboso, Licking County, O.
Friendship—at Hog Run, Newark, O.
Mt. Pleasant—L. Richards, Crooksville, Perry County, O.
Harmony—E. Richards, Alexandria, Licking County, O.
Scott's Creek—E. C. Harsh, Logan, Hocking County, O.
Pleasant Hill—James Cooksey, Hanover, Licking County, O.
Falls of Licking—L. C. Prior, Nashport, Muskingum County, O.
St. Louisville—D. McQueen, St. Louisville, Licking County, O.
Enon—James Smith, Byesville, Guernsey County, O.
Bethel—Bartholomew Davis, Rochester, Noble County O.

MINUTES

OF THE

Muskingum Baptist Association,

HELD WITH THE

PLEASANT HILL CHURCH, LICKING COUNTY, OHIO,

AUGUST 21, 22 AND 23, 1878.

August 21st, 10 o'clock A. M.—The Introductory Sermon was preached, according to appointment, by Elder SAMUEL MEREDITH, from Luke XII—32.

Letters from the several Churches were called for and read, and Messengers' names enrolled, and statistics noted, as follows:

Churches and Messengers.	Ministers and Times of holding Meetings.	Received by Baptism,	Received by Letter,	Restored,	Dismissed by Letter,	Excluded,	Deceased,	Total Number,	Contributions,
Falls of Licking, Musk. Co.—R. J. Smith, Abraham Dorsey, L. C. Prior	Thos. Cole, 2d Lord's day	...	...	...	...	2	1	58	$5 00
Hopewell, Perry Co.—Letter but no messengers	David G. Barker, 1st Lord's day	...	1	...	...	...	...	25	3 35
Union, Perry Co.—Sam'l Burriff	No regular Pastor,—4th Lord's day	1	...	...	...	...	1	16	3 00
Lancaster, Fairfield Co.—Jonas Fartig, Geo. W. Starner,	William Fisher, 4th Lord's day	...	...	...	...	...	1	18	1 15
Lexington, Perry Co.—Thos. J. Strawn, Adam Dusenberry, Geo. W. Moore,	John J. Vanhorn, 4th Lord's day	9	...	...	1	...	1	48	4 00
Timber Run, Musk. Co.—Jno. J. Vanhorn, John Boling, G. D. Burly	G. N. Tussing, 3d Lord's day	...	...	...	...	...	1	22	2 50
Bethel, Noble Co.—Joshua Davis,	E. Barker & J. J. Vanhorn, alternately—1st Lord's day	...	...	...	1	...	...	40	3 65
Beulah, Musk. Co.—Stephen Francis, Sampson Redman,	John Pritchard, 1st Lord's day	...	...	...	2	...	1	31	1 85
Mt. Pleasant, Musk. Co. L. Richards,	John Croy, 3d Lord's day	1	2	...	...	...	3	12	1 00
York, Morgan Co.—Wm. Newlon	John Croy, 4th Lord's day	...	...	...	2	...	...	12	1 20
Zoar, Musk. Co.—Samuel Martin	John Croy, 2d Lord's day	...	1	...	...	1	...	23	1 10

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Churches and Messengers.	Ministers and Times of holding Meetings.	Received by Baptism,	Received by Letter,	Restored,	Dismissed by Letter,	Excluded,	Deceased,	Total Number,	Contributions,
Mt. Olive, Morgan Co.—John Croy, C. M. Mathews,	Lewis Kagy, 1st Lords day	2	...	...	...	...	1	17	$1 62
Scott's Creek, Hocking Co E. C. Harsh, A. Nixon,	David G. Barker, 2d Lord's day	5	...	...	5	...	3	68	3 05
Goshen, Musk. Co.—E. B. Garrett, Thos. Humphrey,	No Pastor reported. 2d Lord's day	1	...	...	...	...	...	35	1 90
Pleasant Hill, Licking Co—Jas. Holmes, Richard Meeks, M. T. Porter	John Pritchard, 4th Lord's Day	...	...	...	...	1	1	56	3 75
Enon, Guernsey Co—Letter, but no Messenger.	J. P. Taylor. 4th Lords day	...	2	...	...	...	...	23	50
Jonathan's Creek, Lick. Co.—Jno. Gutridge, Peter Gutridge, E. Barker,	Ephraim Barker, 4th Lord's day	1	...	...	...	...	1	47	2 15
Monday Creek, Perry Co. Letter, but no Messenger,	William Newlon, 1st Lord's day	...	...	...	6	...	...	18	1 50
St. Louisville, Lick. Co. John Prichard, Abijah Pitney, Elzy Dush,	John Prichard, 2nd Lord's day	1	2	...	...	1	...	38	3 00
Fallsburg, Licking Co.—Jno. Frost, Thos. Gorley, Wm. Painter	George D. Burley, 3d Lord's day	...	...	...	2	...	1	15	2 15
Friendship, at Hog Run, Licking Co.—Abner T. Jury, Alfred Beall, Simeon E. Rhodes	Benj. Lampton & Jno. Boling, alternately, 3d Lord's day	...	1	...	2	...	2	32	3 50
Friendship, near Linville Lick. Co.—Lewis Kagy, Samuel Meredith	John J. Vanhorn, 1st Lord's day	4	...	...	...	...	...	19	1 48
Harmony, Licking Co.—Sam'l Rugg, J. P. Taylor	J. P. Taylor, 1st Lord's day	1	...	...	...	...	...	16	2 15
Totals		26	9	...	21	5	18	689	$54 55

NOTE.—Saturday before the Lord's day mentioned in the above table, is the day of business of the respective churches.

Adjourned uhtil 1 o'clock.

ONE O'CLOCK, P. M.—Association met pursuant to adjournment. Prayer by Elder Sherwood.

1. The Messengers were called.

2. Organized for the present session by choosing Elder John J. Vanhorn, Moderator, and G. W. Moore, Clerk.

3. The Constitution and Articles of Faith were read.

4. Committees were appointed as follows:

On Arrangements.—Elders E, Barker, J. P. Taylor and G. D. Burley.

On Preaching.—The Messenger of Pleasant Hill Church.

On Funds.—Brethren Samuel Buriff, Thomas Humphrey and Azariah Nixon.

On Visitation Meetings.—Brethren E. Dush, E. B. Garret and William Painter.

5. Churches wishing to unite with this Association called for.

6. Correspondence from sister Associations was called for and presented as follows:

MIAMI.—Elder Reed and Minutes.

SCIOTO.—Elder Tussing.

SANDUSKY.—Elder Smith and Minutes.

POCOTALICO.—Elder Melton and Minutes.

OWL CREEK, HARMONY.—Elder Sherwood and Minutes.

7. Associations wishing to open correspondence with this Association were called for.

8. Corresponding Messengers to sister Associations were appointed as follows:

MIAMI.—Elder Ephraim Parker.

SCIOTO.—Elder John J. Vanhorn.

SANDUSKY.—Elder John Prichard.

POCOTALICO.—Elder George D. Burley.

OWL CREEK, HARMONY.—Elder Samuel Meredith.

9. The Circular Letter written by Elder John Bolin, and the Corresponding Letter by Elder Wm. Newlon, were called for, read and referred to the Committee on Arrangements.

10. The Committee of Preaching reported Elders Smith, Tussing, Reed and Sherwood for to-morrow. The report was adopted.

11. Adjourned until to-morrow morning at 9 o'clock.

Prayer by Elder John Prichard.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 22, 1878, 9 O'CLOCK A. M.

Association met persuant to adjournment.

Prayer by Elder Melton.

1. The Messengers' names were called.

2. The Committee on arrangements reported the Minutes of last year as the Order of Business. The report was adopted.

3. The Circular and Corresponding Letters were adopted.

4. The Committee on Visitation Meetings report:

FALLS OF LICKING.—First Lord's day in December, Elders Sherwood and E. Barker.

UNION.—Fourth Lord's day in May, Elders Tussing and Taylor.

LEXINGTON.—Fourth Lord's day in May, Elders Vanhorn and Prichard.

TIMBER RUN.—Third Lord's day in October, Elders Prichard and Tussing.

BETHEL.—First Lord's day in December, Elder John Croy.

BEULA.—First Lord's day in June, Eld's Sherwood and Prichard.

MT. PLEASANT.—Fourth Lord's day in December, Eld. E. Barker.

ZOAR.—Fifth Lord's day in September, Elder G. D. Burley.

GOSHEN.—Third Lord's day in October, Elder E. Barker.

PLEASANT HILL.—Fifth Lord's day in March, Elder E. Barker.

JONATHAN'S CREEK.—Fifth Lord's day in September, Elder G. N. Tussing.

MONDAY CREEK—Fifth Lord's day in June, Elders E. Barker and Newlon.

ST. LOUISVILLE—Fifth Lord's day in September, Elder Vanhorn.

FALLSBURG—Fifth Lord's day in June, Elder D. G. Barker.

FRIENDSHIP, NEAR LINNVILLE—Second Lord's day in June, Elder Newlon.

ENON—Thursday night, Friday and Friday night, before the first Lord's day in October, Elder E. Barker.

All the above meetings, excepting at Enon, to commence on Saturday before the Lord's day mentioned, at 11 o'clock. The report was adopted.

5. Elder E. Barker to write the Circular letter, and Brother L. C. Prior to write the Corresponding letter, for next year.

6. The next Association will be held with the Falls of Licking Church, at the lower honse, commencing on Wednesday before the fourth Lord's day in August, 1879, at 10 o'clock A. M. Elder E. Barker to preach the Introductory Sermon. In case of failure, Elder G. D. Burley.

7. The Committee on Funds report $54.55, appropriated as follows: Minutes, $20; Clerk, $5; Correspondence, Miami, $6.25; Sandusky, $5; Owl Creek, Harmony, $4; Scioto, $2; Pocotalico, $12.70. The report was adopted.

8. The Committee on Preaching reported Elders Melton, D. G. Barker and Sherwood for to-morrow. The report was adopted.

9. The Miuutes were read and approved.

10. Adjourned to time and place above written.

Prayer by Elder Sherwood.

JOHN. J. VANHORN, Moderator.

G. W. MOORE, Clerk.

The past session of the Association was distinguished for the remarkable amount of happiness and pleasure that was everywhere manifesting itself. The congregation, although large, seemed to have come for the purpose of listening, and seemed to be appreciating the sermons, which were able and well delivered. And all will agree that the members of the Pleasant Hill Church know precisely how to make a stranger feel at home among them.

CLERK.

Preaching on the Stand.

Wednesday P. M.—Elder Croy from Romans VI., 33. Elder D. G. Barker from Eph. II; 13, 14.

Thursday—Elder Smith from Romans X., 4. Elder Tussing from Hebrew VII., 25. Elder Reed from Colossians, II., 6. Elder Sherwood from 2 Timothy, IV., 1 and 2.

Friday—Elder Melton from Luke XV., 4, 5. Elder D. G. Barker from Song of Solomon V., 1 to 7. Elder Sherwood from Psalm LXXXIX., 15.

Circular Letter.

The Muskingum Baptist Association to the several Churches composing her body, sendeth Christian salutation :

VERY DEAR BRETHREN:

From a long establish custom your will expect a circular attached to your minutes, if approved of, and you should be very careful to examine all documents before you send them out in your minutes, for they, then, become your own.

We appropriate the present circular letter to the offering of a few thoughts on the Church of God. No subject on earth could be presented to the Saints of God of more interest than this; and no other could be selected, the right understanding of which is so eminently calculated to inspire them with a full sense of their duties and obligations, and to urge them forward in the proper discharge of them. The subject is too vast for a general review of it, in all its parts; we shall, therefore, limit our remarks to the two following points;—the composition of the Church and her militant organization: First the composition of the Church; the term Church, in a common and loose sense in which it is sometimes used is applied to any body of professed believers irrespective of their character and even sometimes to the House in which they usually hold their public meetings. As used, however, in the Scriptures and applied to the true Church of God it has a very definite and solemn meaning. Here it comprehends only those who are of that body of which Jesus Christ is the living head; who are of his flesh and bones; whom he has purchased with his own blood; of whom as a flock he is the Great Shepherd, whom he defends and succours to the utmost extremity, not even sparing his own life.

Although known to God throughout all eternity they become known here only by their being born of the Spirit of God, and receiving power to become the Sons of God; which great work itself only becomes known by the manner in which they received the Gospel and by which is not ment the mere making of a long and boastful profession saying, Lord, Lord, but a coming of it with power, and a receiving of the love of the truth, a thing which is to take place only in those whom God hath from the begining chosen to salvation through sanctification of the spirit and belief of the truth; whereunto he calls them by the Gospel to the obtaining of the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ. (2d Thes. II—13, 14). Being thus brought out and made known they now become the proper subjects for Church membership.

2nd. Her militant organization. This means nothing more nor less than to bring those who are thus born of the Spirit and made manifest as the heirs of salvation together into one household and family, with laws and rules for their Government. Extended over

them peculiar to this, their new state and condition differing from all earthly institutions a heavenly family from whom old things have passed away and all things are become new; from whom in this new relationship all creature powers are to be laid aside. The old man with his deeds put off and the new man renewed in kuowledge after the image of him that created him or who after God is created in righteousness and true holiness and made the living active agent in this new form of existence. They are in this known only in Christ Jesus. This indeed is necessary in order to the glorious ordinance of Baptism, the initiatory ordinance into the Church. The believer is buried by Baptism into Jesus Christ.

But here is a place in which their is a concentration of divine authority of which none may safely make light. Not a Pope, or other assumed dignitary, but the Church of the living God made up of a body of spiritual believers, each acting in the new man under the directing influence of the Spirit of Christ.

Not making, but merely seeking out and applying rules and regulations already made by the Lord himself, in their Church capacity doing all in the name of Christ.

To resist the acts of such a Church, is to resist, not the acts of men, but of the Lord himself. And if to offend one of these little ones, be a crime which it were better to have a millstone hanged about the neck and to be cast into the sea. (Mark IX, 42.) what must it be when it is against the organized Church of God ? But it is remarkable that ever since the organization of the Church of God down to the present time, that men who have been set apart to the work of the ministry have become dissatisfied, not willing to be subject to the Church. But have went out taking with them their friends, sitting up a Government of their own, with rules and laws to suit their own notions.

May the God of Israel stretch forth his mighty arm for the defence and support of his Church.

Corresponding Letter.

The Muskingum Baptist Association to the several Associations with whom she corresponds, sendeth Christian salutation :

DEAR BRETHREN IN THE LORD :

Through the abounding mercy of our ever Blessed God we are once more permitted to meet in an Associate capacity to worship that God, who is glorious in holiness, fearful in praises. Doing wonders.

We desire a continuance of your friendly correspondence, and may the God of all grace ever keep us humble in the dust before Him. That me may be enabled to serve Him with Reverence and Godly fear. Our minutes will inform you of the time and place of our next Association. Brethren Farewell.